

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~automatically customizing and specifying a parallel switchgear system~~ using a computer network-based system including a server coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system, said method comprising the steps of:

accessing a product configurator system;

selecting switchgear product configurations related to a parallel switchgear system from a plurality of user interfaces;

receiving a bill of material and a price quotation ~~for the~~corresponding to the parallel switchgear system;system; and

automatically generating, via the product configurator system, an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system.

2. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising utilizing a plurality of graphical user interfaces to enter at least one of billing information, project information, shipping information, engineering firm information, and electrical contractor information.

3. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of accessing a product configuration system further comprises the step of accessing the database to lookup at least one of a customer information, a project's details, a system, an engine generator, and a distribution breaker.

4. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of selecting switchgear product configurations further comprises the step of a user using a graphical user interface to select at least one of a system configuration, an engine generator configuration, and a distribution breaker configuration.

5. (original) A method according to Claim 4 wherein said step of selecting switchgear product configurations comprises the steps of:

using the client system to select various switchgear configurations through pull-down menus; and

submitting the selections to the server.

6. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein said step of selecting ~~switchgear~~ various switchgear configurations through pull-down menus comprises the step of using the pull-down menus to select a switchgear system configuration, wherein the switchgear system configuration comprises at least one of a system voltage, a number of generators, a size of generators, an enclosure, a laboratory tested listing, a short circuit rating, a main bus size, and a main bus metering.

7. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein said step of selecting ~~switchgear~~ various switchgear configurations through pull-down menus comprises the step of using the system pull-down menus to select an engine generator configuration, wherein the engine generator configuration comprises at least one of a make of generator, governor/load sharing module, a voltage regulation, an alarm shutdown, a grounding system, a PT configuration, a breaker trip unit type, a breaker trip unit model, a breaker size, an annunciation unit type, and a plurality of spare inputs.

8. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein said step of selecting ~~switchgear~~ various switchgear configurations through pull-down menus comprises the step of using the system pull-down menus to select a distribution breaker configuration, wherein the breaker distribution configuration comprises at least one of a trip unit type, a trip unit model, a frame size, an automatic transfer switch, and a load block priority.

9. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of automatically generating further comprises the step of generating an equipment outline drawing.

10. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving a quote further comprises the step of submitting an order to the server.

11. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving a quotation further comprises the steps of:

displaying quotation data; and

printing the quotation on a printer.

12. (original) A method according to Claim 11 wherein said step of displaying a quotation further comprises the steps of:

displaying a delivery schedule;

displaying methods of confirmation;

displaying a transaction number; and

displaying customer information.

13. (original) A method according to Claim 12 wherein said step of displaying a quotation further includes the step of displaying at least one of an HTML document and a XML document on the client system downloaded by the server system.

14. (original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the client system and the server system are connected via a network and wherein the network is at least one of a wide area network, a local area network, an intranet, and the Internet.

15. (currently amended) A system ~~for customizing and specifying a parallel switchgear system, said system~~ comprising:

a parallel switchgear system;

a device;

a computer server connected to said device via a computer network and configured to receive user specifications and selected configurations; and

a product configurator system configured to:

receive user specifications and user selected configurations;

generate a drawing and a quotation; and

~~receive a selection~~receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system.

16. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein the computer network is at least one of a wide area network, a local area network and the Internet.

17. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said device is configured to be a client system for a network of customer devices.

18. (original) A system in accordance with Claim 15 wherein said device configured as a client system comprising a browser.

19. (previously presented) A system in accordance with Claim 18 wherein said server system configured to be coupled to said client system and a database, said server system further configured to:

display on the client system pull-down menus to configure the parallel switchgear system;

accept a user's selection of various pre-determined components of the parallel switchgear system;

store the user's selections; and

generate drawings and a price quotation for a parallel switchgear system.

20. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said server further configured to:

determine availability of selected features for the selected product configurations; and

display a warning if any of the selected product configurations are non-recommended.

21. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said server system further configured to display at least one of an HTML document and an XML document downloaded by said server system.

22. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 18 wherein said client system is further configured with:

a sending component to send an inquiry to the server system so that the server system can process and download requested information to the client system.

23. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 22 wherein said server system further configured to:

access ~~the centralized~~ centralized database;

search the database regarding the specific inquiry;

retrieve information from the database; and

transmit the retrieved information to the client system for display by the client system.

24. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said product configurator system comprises a plurality of graphical user interfaces for a user to enter at least one of registration information, billing information, project information, shipping information, engineering firm information, and electrical contractor information.

25. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said product configurator system further comprises a plurality of graphical user interfaces to configure at least one of a system, an engine-generator, and a distribution breaker.

26. (original) A system according to Claim 25 wherein said product configurator system user interface comprises a user interface to select at least one of a system voltage, a number of generators, a size of generators, an enclosure, a laboratory tested listing, a short circuit ratio, a main bus size, and a main bus metering.

27. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 25 wherein said product configurator engine generator user interface comprises a user interface to select at least one of a make of generator, governor/load sharing module, a voltage regulator, an alarm shutdown, a grounding system, a potential transformer configuration, a breaker trip unit type, a breaker trip unit model, a breaker size, an annunciation unit type, and a plurality of spare inputs.

28. (original) A system according to Claim 25 wherein said product configurator distribution breaker user interface comprises a user interface to select at least one of a trip unit type, a trip unit model, a frame size, an automatic transfer switch, and a load block priority.

29. (original) A system according to Claim 15 wherein said product configurator system further configured to generate at least one of a bill of material, an equipment elevation drawing, an equipment outline drawing, and an electrical schematic.

30.-31. (canceled)

32. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium, comprising:

a record of parallel switchgear system configurations of a parallel switchgear system;

a plurality of rules ~~for matching~~configured to match the record against customer submitted selections ~~for a particular~~and configured to generate a particular configuration of the parallel switchgear system, wherein the rules are applied by a server; and

a record of results provided to a user via a graphical user interface from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted selections; and

~~a selection~~selections, received via a single graphical user interface, of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system.

33. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32 wherein said record of parallel switchgear configurations comprise records of at least one of a system configuration, an engine generator configuration, and a distribution breaker configuration.

34. (original) A computer readable medium according to Claim 33 wherein said system configuration comprises at least one of a system voltage, a number of generators, a size of generators, an enclosure, a laboratory tested listing, a short circuit ratio, a main bus size, and a main bus metering.

35. (original) A computer readable medium according to Claim 33 wherein said engine generator configuration comprises at least one of a make of generator, governor/load sharing module, a voltage regulation, an alarm shutdown, a grounding system, a potential transformer configuration, a breaker trip unit type, a breaker trip unit model, a breaker size, an annunciation unit type, and a plurality of spare inputs.

36. (original) A computer readable medium according to Claim 33 wherein said distribution breaker configuration comprises at least one of a trip unit type, a trip unit model, a frame size, an automatic transfer switch, and a load block priority.

37. (original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32 wherein said record of results comprises at least one record of a bill of material, a drawing, and a quotation for a parallel switchgear system.

38. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 37 wherein said drawing comprises at least one of an equipment elevation drawing, an equipment outline drawing, and an electrical schematic.

39. (previously presented) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium connected to a server coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system via a network, said computer program ~~for configuring a parallel switchgear system,~~ comprising:

a code segment that receives user registration information from a user;

a code segment that displays a graphic user interface ~~for the user to select a parallel switchgear system configuration;~~ to the user that selects a configuration of a parallel switchgear system;

a code segment that receives selections from the user;

a code segment that stores the selections into a centralized database;

a code segment that cross-references the selections against a unique identifier;

a code segment that provides a drawing and a quotation if the unique identifier matches the selections; and

a code segment that generates an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic drawing based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system.

40. (original) A computer program as recited in Claim 39 further includes a code segment that:

tracks information on a real time basis; and

stores information on a real time basis by updating stored information in the centralized database by adding new information to the centralized database on a real-time basis to provide up-to-date information instantaneously to the user upon a request.

41. (currently amended) The computer program as in Claim 39 further includes a code segment that displays ~~a graphical~~the graphical user interface for the user to utilize to select a configuration for the parallel switchgear system.

42. (original) The computer program as recited in Claim 41 further includes a code segment that displays information through an HTML document downloaded by the server system.

43. (original) The computer program as in Claim 41 wherein the selections received from the graphical user interface are stored in at least the server and the centralized database.

44. (original) A computer program as recited in Claim 39 further includes:

a code segment that accesses the centralized database;

a code segment that retrieves information from the database; and

a code segment that causes the retrieved information to be displayed on the client system.

45. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in Claim 39 further includes a code segment that monitors security by restricting access to the server to unauthorized individuals.

46. (original) The computer program as in Claim 39 wherein the network is a wide area network operable using a protocol including at least one of TCP/IP and IPX.

47. (previously presented) The computer program as recited in Claim 39 wherein the client system and the server system are connected via said network and wherein said network is at least one of a wide area network, a local area network, and the Internet.